

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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December 5, 2011

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Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE ON APPROPRIATIONS

This memorandum is to update your Board on the status of appropriations for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012, which began on October 1, 2011.

None of the 12 individual FFY 2012 appropriations bills had been enacted by the start of FFY 2012, so the House had to temporarily extend funding for Federal programs and activities through Continuing Resolutions (CRs). The first CR (H.R. 2017) funded programs through October 4, 2011, while the second CR (H.R. 2608) provided funding through November 18, 2011. More recently, the President signed H.R. 2112 into law on November 18, 2011, which consolidated the FFY 2012 Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS), and Transportation-Housing and Urban Development (HUD) into a single appropriations bill, and also temporarily funded all other Federal programs and activities through December 16, 2011. Congressional appropriators have been negotiating FFY 2012 appropriations for the remaining programs, so the Congress can complete action before the current CR expires and Congress recesses for the holidays.

FFY 2012 Funding for Programs of County Interest in H.R. 2112

H.R. 2112 (Public Law 112-55) included a significant reduction in overall funding for state and local enforcement assistance programs in FFY 2012 though not as large a reduction as would have been provided in the House Appropriations Committee's version of the FFY 2012 CJS Appropriations Bill. Most notably, the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) is funded at \$240 million, which is below its \$273 million funding level in FFY 2011 and Senate version of the FFY 2012 CJS appropriations bill. While SCAAP funding was reduced, securing \$240 million for SCAAP was a major accomplishment because SCAAP was the only state and local grant program singled out for elimination or major reduction by the Obama Administration in its advocacy on

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the legislation, and because the vast majority of states receive relatively little SCAAP funding. In fact, Hawaii, which is represented by Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Daniel Inouye, received only \$325,927 in SCAAP funding in FFY 2011, while the Kentucky received only \$72,985 and no local government in the district of House Appropriations Committee Chairman Harold Rogers (R-KY) received any SCAAP funding in FFY 2011. The County's SCAAP funding would fall from \$9.9 million in FFY 2011 to an estimated \$8.7 million in FFY 2012 assuming that the County's percentage share of total SCAAP-eligible costs and payments remains the same.

Other funding for state and local law enforcement programs of County interest include:

- Formula Justice Assistance Grant funding is reduced from \$422 million in FFY 2011 to \$352 million in FFY 2012, which is between the prior Senate level of \$380 million and House level of \$342 million;
- Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Grant funding is cut from \$247 million in FFY 2011 to \$141 million, which is below the \$162 million level in the Senate bill. The House version would have eliminated COPS funding;
- Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funding is cut from \$46 million in FFY 2011 to \$30 million in FFY 2012, which is the same level as the Senate bill. The House bill did not include any funding for the program;
- DNA Backlog Reduction Initiative is funded at \$125 million, which is below the estimated \$133 million provided in FFY 2011 and in the prior Senate and House bills;
- Southwest Border Prosecutor Program funding is cut from \$26 million in FFY 2011 to \$10 million in FFY 2012 for a combined Southwest and Northern Border Prosecutor Program, which is less than the \$20 million included in the Senate bill for such a combined program while the prior House version included \$26 million for the Southwest Border Prosecutor Program; and
- John R. Justice Grant funding to assist prosecutors and public defenders with student loan repayments is cut from \$5 million in FFY 2011 to \$4 million in FFY 2012. The prior Senate bill would have provided level funding while the House bill eliminated funding for the program.

H.R. 2112 also reduces funding for a number of Housing and Urban Development programs of County interest, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), which was cut by roughly 16 percent in FFY 2011. The bill further reduces CDBG formula grant funding from \$3.336 billion in FFY 2011 to \$2.948 billion, which

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would reduce the County's CDBG allocation from \$26.9 million to \$23.8 million, assuming that the County's percentage share of total CDBG funding remains the same. Other funding cuts of County interest include:

- HOME Investment Partnerships formula grant funding is cut from approximately \$1.61 billion in FFY 2011 to \$1.0 billion in FFY 2012, which is the same level as the prior Senate version and \$200 million below the House version;
- The Public Housing Operating Funding is reduced from roughly \$4.62 billion to \$3.96 billion in FFY 2012, which is the same as the Senate bill, but \$100 million above the House bill;
- The Public Housing Capital funding is cut from \$2.040 billion to \$1.875 billion in FFY 2012, which is the same as the Senate bill, but \$343 million more than the House bill; and
- Section 8 administrative fee funding is cut from \$1.447 billion to \$1.350 billion in FFY 2012, which is the same as the Senate bill, but \$250 million more than the House bill.

The two major housing programs which assist homeless persons are spared from budget cuts for FFY 2012. Homeless Assistance Grants are funded at \$1.9 billion, which is the same level as in FFY 2011, while HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing is funded at \$75 million, which is \$25 million more than in FFY 2011.

The final bill also includes County-sponsored language that exempts the County from the requirement that public housing or Section 8 tenants be represented on the governing board of the County's Housing Authority, similar to language included in prior years' appropriations bills. In addition, it allows up to 20 percent of total CDBG allotments to be used for administration, the same percentage as in previous years. The House, but not Senate, version would have reduced the maximum percentage for covering administrative costs to 10 percent, which would have been especially problematic due to the cuts in overall CDBG funding in recent years. In FFY 2012, overall CDGB funding will be 26 percent less than in FFY 2010.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MR:MT:sb

c: All Department Heads Legislative Strategist